



MODERN & EXPANDED PORT OF BELIZE

CONCEPT AIMS TO IMPROVE LIVES OF BELIZEANS NEAR & FAR

"The new Port is to the sea what the international airport is to the sky, and what the highways are to the region: a vital connection between Belize and the World".
(PoB Pamphlet)



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A Blessed, Happy & Safe Easter

MODERN & EXPANDED

THE PORT OF BELIZE: A GATEWAY TO GLOBAL TRADE

On December 7, 2023, the Government of Belize (GOB), officially moved to acquire and nationalize the Port of Belize Limited (PBL) from the entanglement of the “Ashcroft Alliance”, which was in receivership since 2012.

In what was considered a milestone achievement by the John Briceño administration, the Port Acquisition & Settlement Deeds Bill 2023 was tabled in Parliament, authorizing the purchase of the Port, along with 600 acres of adjoining lands, at a much reduced price of US\$ 83.37 million and the appropriation of US\$ 15.3 million for the resolution of the outstanding judgement award.

Additionally, the Bill relieved the GOB of a myriad of legal responsibilities by Ashcroft, including the lawsuits against the Christian Workers Union (CWU) and the Stevedores and claims against the Ministry of Sustainable Development, the National Environmental Appraisal Committee (NEAC) and the Department of the Environment (DOE).



was unveiled, with a projected cost of US\$ 450 million. It is a forward-looking investment that is crucial for trade and tourism. The objective is to facilitate imports and exports, connecting Belize with international markets, with the POB playing a vital role in driving Belize’s economic growth. As a published pamphlet by the Port indicates - The Port of Belize Expansion Modernization Project’s goal is to provide Belize with a seaport capable of supporting the next two decades of economic growth, from increased opportunities for trade to new ventures in cruise and nautical tourism. *“The new Port is to the sea what the international airport is to the sky, and what the highways are to the region: a vital connection between Belize and the World”.*

The BIS 2025 brought together investors, sectors, and entrepreneurs to explore opportunities that strengthen these vital connections- building resilience and bridging markets for the future of Belize’s prosperity. Interestingly, high-level delegations representing the Government of Belize and the Mexican State of Quintana Roo met in Belize City on March 26, 2026, to reaffirm their commitment to regional co-operation and strategic partnership. One such measure of cooperation



is the integration of the Tren Maya infrastructure with Belize’s transportation system and the Port of Belize Project. At the conclusion of the meeting, the Mexican delegation made a site visit to the Port of Belize with the delegations giving their assurances that the benefits of regional growth will be felt by the citizens of the respective countries.



A vital requirement for the launch of the project is consultation and on Wednesday, March 25, 2026, Belize’s public consultation was held at the Belize Biltmore Plaza in Belize City. A diverse cross-section of society attended the session, including residents of the Port Loyola community, Stevedores, business owners, and non-governmental organisation representatives (NGOs) and other stakeholders. Allan Herrera and Sherlene Tablada both of Nexterra Environmental and Engineering Consulting firm presented on the Environment & Social Impact Assessment (ESIA). Kenrick Gabourel of the Department of the Environment (DOE) gave an overview of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). The ESIA provided a detailed mitigation, monitoring, and adaptive management plan for the project along with a stakeholder grievances mechanism. As we go to print the NEAC’s decision is expected to move the project forward.

At the conclusion of the public consultation, there was a majority in support of the Port of Belize Expansion & Modernization Project. A project that is a mandate of PlanBelize 2.0 and is projected to bridge regional markets and to become the gateway to global trade.

By Hilly Bennett

Catalyze Her Potential Fueling Female Entrepreneurship Project in Belize

Belize City, March 31, 2025. NIME Belize Inc., in collaboration with the IDB Lab, launched its Catalyze Her Potential: Fueling Female Entrepreneurship Project in Belize. The key objective of the Project is to empower 250 female entrepreneurs by offering incubation, acceleration, mentorship and financial support to MSMEs.

The Catalyze Her Potential project will foster economic growth in Belize by supporting and accelerating female-led MSMEs by addressing key challenges faced by female entrepreneurs, such as access to finance, business support, and creating an innovation ecosystem to unlock the private sector’s potential.

The project is comprised of three components:

- Component I: Capacity building via a learning management system (LMS);
- Component II: Networking programmes to increase mentoring opportunities via LMS and events for members to exchange knowledge and tap into synergies nationally, regionally and internationally;
- Component III: Pilot a seed capital component for women entrepreneurs as a microfinancing institution.

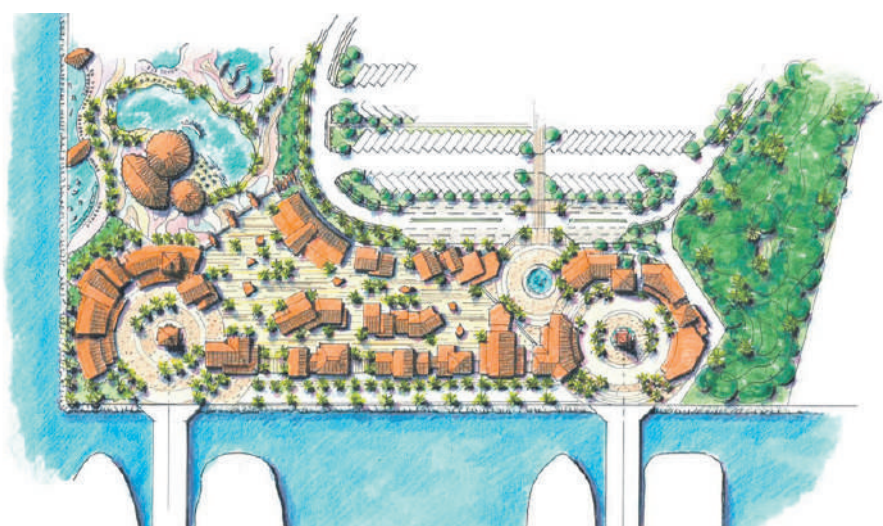
The Project’s funding structure looks at financial support of USD 400,000 by IDB, counterpart funding by NIME’s Executive and Members of up to USD 127,400 and counterpart funding cash by other partners of up to USD 272,600.

Women entrepreneurs, leaders of women groups, academia, civil society groups, other donor agencies and inter-governmental agencies participated in the project launch. During the launch, NIME Members shared insights and experiences about the impact of community for women in business making a call to action by other women entrepreneurs to apply to the Catalyze Her Project. (release)



At the Belize Investment Summit (BIS) 2025, held on September 5, 2025, a Master Plan for the Port of Belize Cruise and Cargo Port

City on March 26, 2026, to reaffirm their commitment to regional co-operation and strategic partnership. One such measure of cooperation



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EDITORIAL

Working towards a Championship

One of the People's United Party's tenets is that "The Work Continues"—'Serve the People' without end. This principle has been skillfully upheld through the transparent plan-Belize John Briceño administration over 65 months of relentless effort. The Prime Minister and his Ministers are seen cutting ribbons in one place and, moments later, shaking hands in another district or country. You see the PM at the United Nations, and soon after, he's at your gate. The Prime Minister's team is like a championship sports team, striving for ultimate victory—not just routine wins. The PUP is painting, like Michelangelo, the ceiling of a Sistine Chapel while helping others to paint for themselves. There is no time for praise or celebration.

Two major General Election victories, four and a half years apart, have not weakened the PUP's drive to improve lives. Three commanding municipal and village council wins have not slowed their urgency. A negotiation reducing Barrow's foreign debt by a billion dollars has not dulled the people's energy behind Belize's Prime Minister. Economic indicators such as GDP growth, low unemployment, increased MSMEs, and securing millions in funding from the Millennium Challenge Corporation have not diminished PUP's ambition to deliver more. Broad access to Education, Health, Land, Housing, Jobs, and Social Justice remains in line with planBelize's promises and Good Governance motion in the House.

The new Financial Year 2026-2027 and a 1.91-billion-dollar budget set the government on planBelize 2.0. It reminds people that the PUP government, just one year after the General Elections, is staying on track. PlanBelize is a true form of democracy—of, by, and for all Belizeans.

At the March 23-25 debate on the Revenue and Appropriations Bill 2026-2027, UDP Representatives admitted that planBelize is helping even UDP communities. The October 2021 Constituency Development Fund belongs to the people, and the Prime Minister shares it with all representatives, including UDPs. Each month, the UDPs are surprised by the funds received. The idea of the PUP giving to the Opposition confounds them. Even their leaders struggle to criticise when things are going well. The News 7 manager rants on Monday mornings, trying—and failing—to score political points. UDP members in the House, on TV, and online end up either supporting the PUP or spreading falsehoods—a strategy that is failing for an Opposition now barely a party.

The PUP must stay on track. The effort to end poverty is ongoing, and John Briceño's team has scored many wins for the people. But it is not enough. No child born today should be poor as an adult. This is the championship John Briceño and his team pursue. And...the work continues.

en Español

Trabajando Para Alcanzar El Campeonato

Uno de los principios fundamentales del Partido Unido del Pueblo (PUP) es «el trabajo continúa»: «servir al pueblo» sin descanso. Este principio se ha defendido con maestría mediante el plan transparente del Gobierno de John Briceño en Belice, tras 65 meses de esfuerzo incansable. Se ve al primer ministro y a sus ministros cortando cintas en un lugar y, momentos después, estrechando manos en otro distrito o país. Se ve al primer ministro en las Naciones Unidas y, poco después, está en tu puerta. El equipo del primer ministro es como un equipo deportivo que lucha por el campeonato, que se esfuerza por alcanzar la victoria definitiva, no solo por victorias rutinarias. El PUP está pintando, como Miguel Ángel, el techo de la Capilla Sixtina, mientras ayuda a otros a pintar por sí mismos. No hay tiempo para elogios ni celebraciones.

Dos importantes victorias en las elecciones generales, con cuatro años y medio de diferencia, no han debilitado el impulso del PUP para mejorar la vida de las personas. Tres contundentes victorias en los consejos municipales y de aldea no han frenado su urgencia. Una negociación que redujo la deuda externa de Barrow en mil millones de dólares no ha apagado la energía del pueblo que respalda al primer ministro de Belice. Indicadores económicos como el crecimiento del PIB, el bajo desempleo, el aumento de las micro, pequeñas y medianas empresas (MIPYMES) y la obtención de millones en financiación de la Millennium Challenge Corporation no han disminuido la ambición del PUP de ofrecer más. El amplio acceso a la educación, la salud, la tierra, la vivienda, el empleo y la justicia social sigue en línea con las promesas de planBelize y con la moción de buen gobierno presentada en la Cámara.

El nuevo ejercicio fiscal 2026-2027 y un presupuesto de 1.910 millones de dólares sitúan al Gobierno en el planBelize 2.0. Esto recuerda a la población que el Gobierno del PUP, apenas un año después de las elecciones generales, sigue por el buen camino. planBelize es una verdadera forma de democracia: de, por y para todos los beliceños.

En el debate celebrado del 23 al 25 de marzo sobre el Proyecto de Ley de Ingresos y Asignaciones 2026-2027, los representantes del UDP admitieron que planBelize está ayudando incluso a las comunidades del UDP. El Fondo de Desarrollo de Circunscripciones de octubre de 2021 pertenece al pueblo y el primer ministro lo comparte con todos los representantes, incluidos los del UDP. Cada mes, los del UDP se sorprenden por los fondos recibidos. La idea de que el PUP done a la oposición les desconcierta. Incluso a sus líderes les cuesta criticar cuando las cosas van bien. El director de News 7 despotrica los lunes por la mañana, intentando —sin éxito— ganar puntos políticos. Los miembros del UDP en la Cámara, en la televisión y en Internet acaban o bien apoyando al PUP o bien difundiendo falsedades, una estrategia que está fracasando para una oposición que ahora apenas es un partido.

El PUP debe mantener el rumbo. El esfuerzo por erradicar la pobreza continúa, y el equipo de John Briceño ha logrado muchas victorias para el pueblo. Pero no es suficiente. Ningún niño que nazca hoy debería ser pobre de adulto. Este es el objetivo que persiguen John Briceño y su equipo. Y... el trabajo continúa.

Hon. Thea Brings More Solar to the Bay Lighting Up Sustainably



The Maya Jade Head Solar lighting was so successful that Hon. Thea, after listening, is leading the instalment of lights at the edges of the shores of Corozal Town. As you drive by it is glorious, one can only imagine how an Aerial views and looking ashore would awe when all forty-five are installed.

There are multiple stories in a few villages and one in Belmopan where lights are stolen right from the post and away from the community. This should be monitored closely and reported. Perps should be punished with the full strength of the law.



WHO TEK THE LIGHTS...is better use of time and effort.
Hon. Thea informs and



reaches out: *“I am very pleased to inform you that the installation of 45 new solar lights has officially begun along the Corozal Bay seaside, from Corozal Blues to Miami Beach.*

This project is an important step toward improving the safety of our residents and visitors, while also enhancing the beauty of our town. These solar lights will provide better visibility and contribute to a more welcoming experience for all.

I kindly ask for your cooperation in taking care of these solar light. If you witness anyone attempting to damage or steal the solar lights, please report it immediately to the police.

I will continue to keep you updated as the project progresses.”



UDPs Supports Budget Jules Licks Out “the Opposition is trash”

The more Jules Vasquez criticizes anything the more wrong he proves himself to be. UDP slates supported by Vasquez since 2018 have all lost elections to a country that is either ignoring him or just loves the entertainment. His latest tirade against the no other than the UDP is his reaction to First Female Leader of Opposition, Tracy Panton’s, wreck of a rebuttal to PM Briceño’s budget proposal. Additionally, he was reacting to Lee Mark’s lack of cogency and falsehoods and Mike Guerra’s virtual crossing of the floor. He all but forgot that the reason the UDP was unable to rebut with any effectiveness was because the PUP provided the nation a solid “Budgeting for Belizean Prosperity.” The PUP’s record allowed them all kinds of authority to present with total credibility. This is the same ingredient that the UDP will not have for elections rounds to come.

Jules Vasquez in his morning rant licked out loud that “the Opposition is trash” worse off under the leadership of Tracy Panton.

Last year Panton had fainted in her 2025-2026 budget debate response and an ambulance had to be called with the House Sitting temporarily halted. This year she literally could not stand up for the people of Belize. She claimed some disability and as she delivered a longwinded budget response that did more damage than good for the UDP.

All UDP representatives threw our flowers to the PUP’s health policy, land policy, free education policy and, when it came to Mike Guerra, he practically crossed the floor. It might seem mature for an Opposition to be giving out praises to the ruling party but in the case of the UDP they have no other recourse. The PUP is performing for them and for the people.

In a way, Jules Vasquez was saying that he spends all his grey matter attacking even potholes and manufactured issues to have to see a UDP just became an obsequious bunch. Jules was upset. Maybe he should put his name on the ballot ala Almandarez.



**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
(INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT)**

PROJECT MANAGER

Institution: Ministry of Finance
Country: Belize
Project: Promoting Sustainable Growth in the Blue Economy Program
Process ID: BL-L1042-P00049
Duration: Twenty-four (24) Months
Duty Station: Ministry of Finance, Belmopan (In Office)
Deadline: April 17th, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. (Local Belize Time)

The Government of Belize has received loan financing from the Inter-American Development Bank for the execution of the “Promoting Sustainable Growth in the Blue Economy Program” being implemented by the Ministry of Finance.

The Ministry of Finance, through its Central Executing Unit, intends to allocate a portion of the project’s proceeds to engage the contractual services of a “Project Manager”.

The Ministry of Finance invites individuals to access the full version of this Request for Expression of Interest (REOI) and Terms of Reference (TOR) at <http://procurement.gov.bz/opportunities/> or by scanning the QR code below, and to submit application packages in accordance with the instructions provided in the full version.

ATTN:
Sr. Procurement Specialist
Ministry of Finance
2nd Floor, Sir Edney Cain Building, Belmopan
procurement@ceu.mof.gov.bz



Ref: Individual Consultancy – “Project Manager” – Promoting Sustainable Growth in the Blue Economy Program– [Name of consultant].

Easter Celebrations Across Belize

Country awaits Cross Country & Attend Faith-based Concert



March 31, 2026 - Communities across Belize are preparing for a vibrant Easter season filled with faith, culture, entertainment, and family time, as towns and cities roll out a mix of traditional observances and modern celebrations.

Safely Swimming

In San Pedro, excitement is building for what organizers are calling the biggest Easter party of the year. Set for April 4th and 5th at Secret Beach, the two-day event promises live performances from local and regional artists, beachside games, and nonstop entertainment. With an Easter egg hunt, giveaways, dance competitions, and food and drink specials, the celebration is expected to draw large crowds, spreading a lively holiday experience by the sea.

Benque's Alfombras

To the west in Benque Viejo del Carmen, preparations are underway for one of the country's most revered Good Friday traditions. The annual Alfombras event on April 3rd will see residents and volunteers transform the streets into intricate sawdust carpets, a practice deeply rooted in Catholic observance. Beginning before dawn, teams will spend hours crafting colorful designs, setting the stage for the afternoon's solemn procession. The highlight remains the Santo Entierro, where a life-sized figure of Jesus Christ is carried through the streets, passing over the carefully designed carpets in a moving display of faith and artistry.

Egg Hunts

In Belmopan, families are invited to a more relaxed gathering as the city hosts its annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 5th at the Sir George

Brown Field. The free event promises games, prizes, and appearances by the Easter Bunny, providing a wholesome outing for children and parents alike.

Christian Concerts

In Corozal Town, the mood shifts to celebration as the Town Council hosts a free Easter weekend concert on April 4th at the Chactemal Bayside Plaza. Headlined by a popular Punta artist, Supa G, the event will run into the early hours of the morning, offering residents and visitors a high-energy night of music. Organizers have also teased an additional beach party set for the following day, adding to the district's festive lineup.

Meanwhile, in Belize City, Holy Week observances have already begun with the launch of the 2026 Holy Week Revival schedule for tonight. The two-day event at Digi Park brings together gospel music, community reflection, and spiritual renewal. With free transportation provided to all, organizers are aiming to make the experience accessible and inclusive. The revival follows a strong turnout in 2023 and continuous calls for repeat, which the council hopes to grow as a centerpiece event for the city during the Easter period.

Earlier festivities also set the tone for the season. In Orange Walk Town, residents recently enjoyed a night of gospel reggae music featuring an internationally recognized group, drawing crowds for an evening of praise and unity. This past weekend, there was also the Bandfest 2026 with the Mighty Blue Jaguars taking First Place School Drum Corp.

From sacred traditions in the west to beach parties on the coast and family-friendly gatherings across the country, Easter in Belize reflects a unique blend of devotion and celebration. As the holiday approaches, communities nationwide are once again coming together, offering something for everyone while preserving the cultural spirit that defines the season.



Official Launch of WILD501 At the Museum of Belizean Art



March 19 marked the official launch of WILD501 at the Museum of Belizean Art in Belize City, an immersive exhibition celebrating the lifelong work of legendary filmmaking duo Carol and Richard Foster. More than just an exhibit, WILD501 digitizes the Fosters' work, which helped shape national conservation and even the foundation of the Belize Zoo. Led by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Science, and Technology, through the National Institute of Culture and History (NICH), the project ensures the Fosters' decades of showcasing Belize's natural world to global audiences are preserved for future generations. (GoB Post)

WILD501 was an amazing tribute. In recent years, Carol has been collaborating with NICH to provide their films and photographs to Belize's national archives so that the work can live on and remain accessible to future generations. From

Continued on Pg 11



Blue Bond and Finance Permanence Unit Office of the Prime Minister Belize City, Belize

CONSULTANCY OPPORTUNITY

Individual Consultancy for a Case Study on the Implementation of the Electronic Monitoring Program (EMP) for Belize's High Seas Fishing Vessels

The Blue Bond and Finance Permanence (BBFP) Unit within the Office of the Prime Minister, invites qualified individual consultants to submit proposals for a consultancy for a Case Study on the Implementation of the Electronic Monitoring Program (EMP) for Belize's High Seas Fishing Vessels.

The objective of this consultancy is to conduct a comprehensive case study on the implementation of the EMP onboard Belize's high seas fishing vessels.

SPECIFIC TASKS INCLUDE:

- Conduct literature review of relevant policies, frameworks, and EMS implementation in Belize and globally.
- Engage stakeholders through interviews to gather insights on EMS implementation, operation, challenges, and compliance.
- Collect and analyze data to assess EMS effectiveness, identify challenges, and evaluate impacts on compliance and fisheries management.
- Conduct a comparative analysis of Belize's EMS implementation against international initiatives, highlighting best practices and lessons learned.
- Develop and present a comprehensive EMS case study highlighting background, findings, challenges, and recommendations.

QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE OF CONSULTANT:

- Postgraduate degree in fisheries, marine conservation, environmental science, policy analysis, or related field.
- At least 5 years' demonstrated experience in fisheries governance, compliance monitoring, marine conservation, or related field.
- Proven experience conducting at least two similar assignments (e.g., case studies, policy analyses, impact assessments).
- Demonstrated experience working with government, fisheries, or international organizations.
- Strong analytical and report-writing skills, with at least one relevant report or publication.

Duration: Three (3) months

Submission Deadline: April 17, 2026, by 10:00 am (BZ Time)

Full Terms of Reference is available at: www.bhsfu.gov.bz/opportunities
Only proposals submitted in accordance with the official ToR will be considered.
Only shortlisted consultants will be contacted.

RECOGNISING OUR WOMEN LEADERS



Ms Jaylan Craig
Board Director



Mrs Arreini Palacio-Morgan
Board Director



Dr Melissa Badillo
Director, Institute of Archaeology



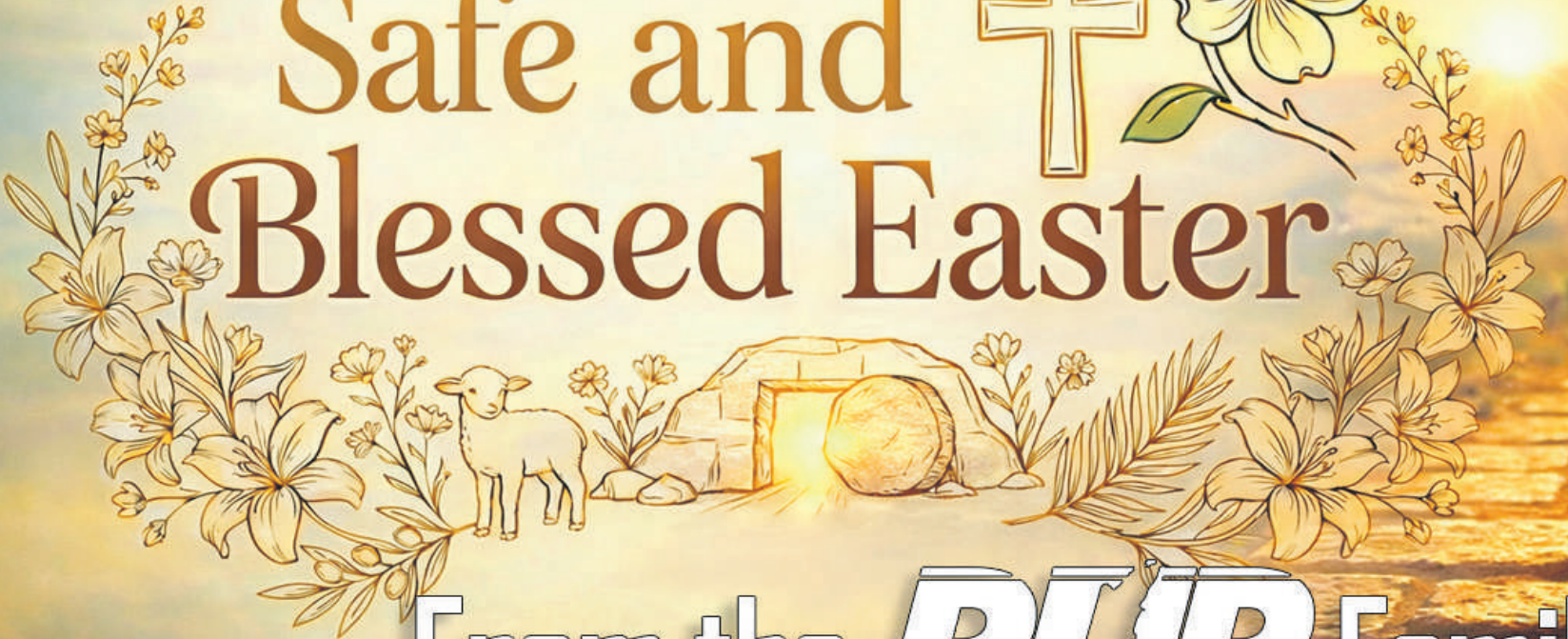
Ms Kim Vasquez
Director, Institute of Creative Arts



Ms Ilona Smiling
Director, Museum of Belize and
Houses of Culture

N I C H
national institute of culture and history

Have a
Safe and
Blessed Easter



From the **PUP** Family
PEOPLE'S UNITED PARTY

WORK CONTINUES IN 2026

PM John Briceño



BPO Expansion For Women in Rural Belize



At Wild 501 for Posterity (Foster & Belize)

Min. Kevin Bernard, Health and Wellness



Visiting Northern Regional Hospital

Min. Oscar Requena (Toledo West), Rural Transformation, Community Development & Local Government



Visiting Northern Regional Hospital

Corozal Bay Marshalls



Marshalls President Endorsing New Corozal Bay Exec

SMALL FARMERS GRANT 4k Program



Belize Rural North



Stann Creek



Cayo



Toledo

Works all Over Belize



Safety w/ Reflectors on Bridges and Guardrails



New Equipment for Better Service

'Segulmos Muy Blen'

Wonder Woman Competition 2026



The Belize Defence Force team in the Wonder Woman Competition 2026 won the championship after three days of grueling exercises that tested their teamwork, strength, resilience, and mental fortitude. The team dominated the rigorous tests, outperforming both the Coast Guard and Police teams.

Congratulations to the women of the BDF, as well as those of the Police and Coast Guard. What a remarkable way to culminate the activities for Women’s Month 2026.

A little history on the WWC, The Belize Coast Guard (BCG) has traditionally dominated the Wonder Woman Competition in Belize, having won the event multiple times since its inception in 2016, including victories in 2017, 2018, 2019, 2023, and 2025. The 2020-2023 break was due to the Covid pandemic. In 2024 the Belize Defence Force (BDF) broke ranks and won. The Belize Coast Guard won the 9th Annual Challenge. The 2026 Winner: The Belize Defence Force (BDF) Reclaimed the title in the 10th Annual competition.

The annual competition, which began in 2016 and was paused during the pandemic, brings together female elite officers from the Belize Coast Guard, Belize Defence Force, and Belize Police Department to compete in grueling physical and mental challenges.



Benque Viejo Town Council Easter Jobs Program

March 30 - Mayor Rosales joined this morning’s briefing to welcome the 20 students who will be working under the Easter holiday jobs program. They were welcomed and introduced to the staff they will be working with for the next two weeks across Benque Viejo Town. Every morning during the week, workers meet at the Benque Viejo Town Council at 6 a.m. to receive briefings on the works to be carried out or new work assignments.

These quick briefings are also used to listen to recommendations and work-related concerns from staff and to address resident issues brought forward to them. The Benque Viejo Town Council is proud to support these students with holiday jobs, as this helps them to earn an extra income for their education and assist their families. We once again welcome them. (BVTC post)

We might be used to hearing about Summer or even Christmas job programs. The Benque Town Council should be commended for taking this unusual effort to



providing exactly what you said, the “extra income” that is definitely welcome by any student. Also, any opportunity our young people can get in getting trained in the intangibles of the working arena is definitely progress for Belize. Also, it can be fair to guess that some of them will be getting their first pay so learning how to manage their finances is another plus for this endeavour. Kudos to any Belizean Business of other Council who might have similar opportunity at this Easter Time. Again an extra thanks to the Town Council who had to have planned way ahead of time for this forward-thinking initiative.

Happy Easter

As we celebrate the Easter season, the Ministry of Human Development, Family Support and Gender Affairs extends sincere Easter greetings to all families across Belize.

Easter is a time of renewal, hope, and compassion. It reminds us of the importance of kindness, unity, and supporting one another, especially those who need it most. During this season, we are encouraged to reflect on the values of love, sacrifice, and service that strengthen our communities and bring comfort to others.

The Ministry remains committed to promoting the well-being of children, strengthening families, and supporting individuals. As we observe this season, we encourage everyone to share hope, extend kindness, and continue building a caring and inclusive society.

May this Easter bring peace to your hearts, joy to your homes, and renewed hope for the days ahead.

Happy Easter from the Minister and Ministry of Human Development, Family Support and Gender Affairs.



5th Annual Women's Sports Day Five Ministries & A Council



The Belmopan City Council extends sincere appreciation to the Ministry of Human Development, Family Support, and Gender Affairs for the invitation to the 5th Annual Women's Sports Day, held in recognition of International Women's Month as we close out this important celebration.

This meaningful event brought together women from the Ministry of Home Affairs & Enterprise, the Ministry of Infrastructure Development & Housing, the Ministry of the Public Service & Disaster Risk Management, the Ministry of Natural Resources, Petroleum and Mining, the Ministry of Immigration and Ministry of sustainable development, climate change & solid waste management for joining in this meaningful observance.

Together, we continue to celebrate women's empowerment and Move Belmopan Forward! (post)



Girls Empowerment Seminar 2026



The Belmopan City Council was proud to host the Girls Empowerment Seminar 2026 at the Belmopan Civic Center under the theme: "Strong Girls Today, Empowered Women in the Future."

Special thanks to MC Emily Martinez and all our presenters and contributors who helped make the event meaningful and inspiring, including Mrs. Doreth Elijo, Councilor Florita Botes - Portfolio for Women Empowerment, Ms. Mariellie Block, Mrs. Tanya Santos Neal, Dr. Anel Martinez, Deanni Janae, Ms. Conti West, and Ms. Shannia Pech.

We also acknowledge the presence of Deputy Mayor Christopher Enriquez and Councilor Lawrence Tush as we continue empowering our future leaders and Move Belmopan Forward!

Decorations by Special Occasions Belize and Thanks to Ms Sandra Jones for donating her time. (post)



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Start Strong, Empower Belize

March 31, 2026 - Child Stimulation Month and Women’s Month concluded across Belize with vibrant activities that underscored the national theme, “Early Childhood Education: Start Strong,” Women’s Month theme, “Balance the Scale,” highlighting both early learning and women’s empowerment as pillars of development.

In Corozal District, Minister Thea Garcia-Ramirez described the celebrations as a powerful reminder of the link between strong women and confident children. Her visit to Mary Hill RC School emphasized the importance of early childhood development, noting that the majority of brain growth occurs before age five. She also pointed to the need for expanded access to preschool education, particularly in rural communities where participation remains limited.

Meanwhile, in Orange Walk District, young learners took center stage with interactive visits to the Orange Walk Town Council. Preschoolers toured offices, explored civic life, and

playfully imagined themselves as future leaders, reflecting the month’s focus on nurturing ambition from an early age.

In Belize City, a series of engaging initiatives brought learning beyond the classroom. Students participated in road safety sessions, market tours, and storytelling activities, including a special reading of a local children’s story tied to the city’s electric bus project. Mayor Wagner and other Councilors also used the opportunity to inspire children through career day visits and community engagement, reinforcing lessons on responsibility, safety, and service.

Over in Belmopan, traffic officers visited preschools to introduce children to public service roles, while Women’s Month activities included empowerment seminars, night markets, and community celebrations recognizing the achievements of women across sectors.

Women’s Month also saw standout moments nationwide, including an all-female uniform parade in Belize City honoring

women in law enforcement and security services, attended by Dame Froyla Tzalam. In Corozal, female municipal workers were recognized for their contributions, while in Orange Walk, community events celebrated creativity and unity among women and girls.

The National Women’s Commission, with support from the Minister of Human Development, Family Support, and Gender Affairs, also held its 21st Annual Outstanding Women’s Awards Ceremony, honoring 14 extraordinary Belizean women. In closing, the Women in Security Forces Road March closes off Women’s Month Activities today, Tuesday, March 31, 2026

As the dual observances closed, the message remained clear: investing in children and empowering women are essential to Belize’s future. Across districts, the month’s activities reinforced a shared commitment to building stronger communities, nurturing young minds, and creating opportunities for the next generation to thrive.

Côte d’Ivoire’s Olivia Yacé Visits Confidence Room at BCC



Olivia Yacé is fourth runner-up at Miss Universe 2025 in Bangkok and crowned Miss Universe Africa, has arrived in Belize. She competed and befriended Miss Universe Belize Bella Zabaneh who has her as special guest.

Tomorrow, Yacé took part in the Confidence Room, a teen empowerment session in Belize City to inspire young girls to believe in themselves.



NOTICE Request for Prequalification (RFPQ)

Utility-Scale Solar PV Projects in Belize (80 MW)

Belize Electricity Limited (BEL), in partnership with the Government of Belize (GoB) through the Ministry of Public Utilities, Energy and Logistics (MPUEL), and with advisory support from the International Finance Corporation (IFC), invites qualified private-sector developers to participate in a Request for Prequalification (RFPQ) for landmark utility-scale solar PV projects in Belize.

To deliver this initiative, the GoB has engaged the IFC, a member of the World Bank Group, acting through its Advisory Services division, as lead transaction advisor. The Project is being structured under the globally recognized Scaling Solar initiative, which promotes an open, competitive, and transparent procurement process to accelerate the deployment of privately owned utility-scale solar projects.

Procurement Process

The RFPQ represents the first stage of a competitive bidding process. Its purpose is to prequalify developers with the technical experience, financial capacity, and delivery capability required to implement large-scale solar PV projects within an accelerated timeframe. Only prequalified bidders will be invited to participate in the subsequent Request for Proposals (RFP) stage.



Project Overview

Total Capacity:
Up to 80 MW of grid-connected utility-scale solar PV

Sites:
3 to 4 locations across Belize

Commercial Structure:
Independent Power Producer (IPP) model

Role of the Private Sector:
Design, finance, construct, own, operate, and maintain the solar PV facilities

Objectives of the Project

This strategic investment is a cornerstone of Belize’s energy transition and is intended to:



Increase renewable energy generation to support Belize’s target of 75% renewable electricity by 2030



Reduce foreign exchange outflows associated with electricity imports



Strengthen national energy security and system reliability

Access to RFPQ

The full RFQ document, including eligibility criteria, submission requirements, and timelines, is available at:

www.bel.com.bz/Tenders

Belize is open for clean energy investment. Qualified developers are encouraged to participate in this transformative project that will shape the country’s sustainable energy future.

April
6

CLOSURE OF THE QUEEN CONCH FISHING SEASON



The Belize Fisheries Department hereby informs all fishers and the public that, in accordance with Statutory Instrument No. 54 of 2012, Hon. Andre Perez, Minister of Blue Economy and Marine Conservation, has declared the Queen Conch (*Strombus gigas*) fishery closed at the close of business on **April 6, 2026**. This is necessary due to the realization of the Queen Conch Production Quota for the 2025-2026 fishing season.

The fishing community is advised that all conch fishing activities shall cease as of this date until the opening of the next fishing season on October 1, 2026. The Belize Fisheries Department further advises all establishments and the public to use, consume, and dispose of all Queen Conch meat in their possession on or before April 6, 2026. Any person or establishment found in possession of Queen Conch after April 6, 2026, will be charged and prosecuted in a court of law in accordance with the Fisheries Regulations.

The Fisheries Department advises the public to report any illegal fisheries activity by calling telephone number 224-4552. (Release)

The Queen conch is a large marine gastropod (snail) in phylum Mollusca. They are slow growing and late to mature, reaching up to 12 inches in length and living up to 30 years. Queen conch occurs throughout the Caribbean Sea, the Florida Keys, and around Bermuda. They are benthic-grazing herbivores that feed on algal and plant material as well as diatomaceous films on hard surfaces. Adult queen conch prefer sandy algal flats but are also found on gravel, coral rubble, smooth hard coral, and beach rock bottom, while juveniles are primarily associated with seagrass beds.

Galveston

Picture: Researcher holding juvenile queen conch. Shown is the spiral-shaped shell with a glossy pink/orange interior, part of the soft interior body, and large eyes on the end of stalks. Credit: Jennifer Doerr, NOAA SEFSC

Continued from Pg 05

Official Launch of WILD501 At the Museum of Belizean Art

BFREE staff, we were honored to be invited to share in this event. We are also profoundly grateful to have had the privilege to work with Carol and Richard over the years. Their efforts have helped raise awareness on critical species like the Harpy eagle and Hicatee turtle, as well as those species that aren't recognized as important like snails and bats. At their core, Carol and Richard have always been educators and advocates for the rights of wildlife. We have much to learn from their compassion and commitment. #wild501 #belize #wildlifepro-

tection #filmmakers @carolfoster184 (Belize Foundation for Research & Environmental Education post)

BYM post "I just wanted to take my work and be able to share it through education with the children of Belize." — Carol Foster

This morning, a meaningful partnership between the Ministry of Education, Culture, Science and Technology and Carol Foster was celebrated. Through Wild501, Carol and Richard Foster's work is being brought to life as an engaging educational resource, using film and wildlife photography to inspire curiosity and learning among Belizeans.

By connecting students with the natural world around them, this initiative invites young minds to explore, discover, and grow through education.

#Wild501 - Be Wildly Curious



HAPPY
Easter

FROM MANAGEMENT AND STAFF OF
BELIZE WATER SERVICES LTD.

Delivering Water and More...

Special Sitting of the House of Representatives

HIGHLIGHTS OF BUDGET DEBATE 2026-2027

MARCH 23, 24, 25

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, BELMOPAN

PUP

PEOPLE'S UNITED PARTY

PUP

PEOPLE'S UNITED PARTY

BUDGET PRESENTATION 2026



BUDGETING FOR BELIZEAN PROSPERITY

Hon. John Briceño
Prime Minister of Belize

\$238 Million

TOTAL INVESTMENT IN THE HEALTH OF BELIZEANS

\$181.2 Million

MINISTRY OF HEALTH & WELLNESS

\$57 Million

NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE



Hon. Kevin Bernard
Minister of Health & Wellness



"A Belize where children are protected, women are empowered, families are supported, and the most vulnerable are included."

HON. THEA GARCIA-RAMIREZ
MINISTER OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, FAMILY SUPPORT & GENDER AFFAIRS



This fiscal year, **four** communities, Jalacte, San Benito Poite, San Vicente and Fireburn will gain electricity for the first time, reaching over **250 households** and **750 Belizeans**.

GOVERNMENT OF BELIZE | MINISTRY OF PUBLIC UTILITIES, ENERGY & LOGISTICS
www.mpu.gov.bz



The Elections and Boundaries Commission is committed to completing the redistricting of the 31 electoral divisions by December, 2026.

HON. KAREEM MUSA
MINISTER OF IMMIGRATION, GOVERNANCE AND LABOUR



Through the Saudi Fund for Development partnership with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Belize is delivering a **US\$77 million** solar and battery project generating **70 GWh** annually and cutting **50,000 tons of CO₂**.

- Hon. Michel Chebat
Minister of Public Utilities, Energy & Logistics



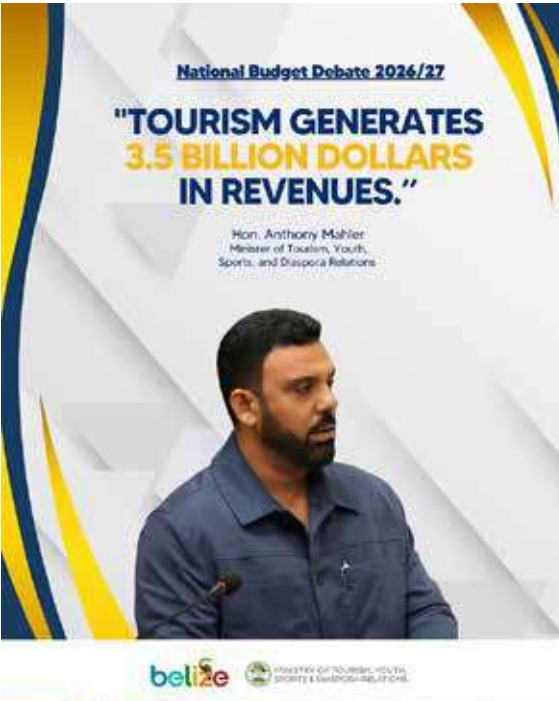
"We are helping to regularize thousands of landowners, lifting these folks out of poverty, throwing them an anchor in the middle of the storm."

Hon. Condi Hyde
Minister of Natural Resources, Fisheries and Mining



Over **2,500** Belize Rural residents are now **REGISTERED TO NHI** and can benefit from affordable primary healthcare

Hon. Marcom Leal Jr.
Minister of Health & Wellness



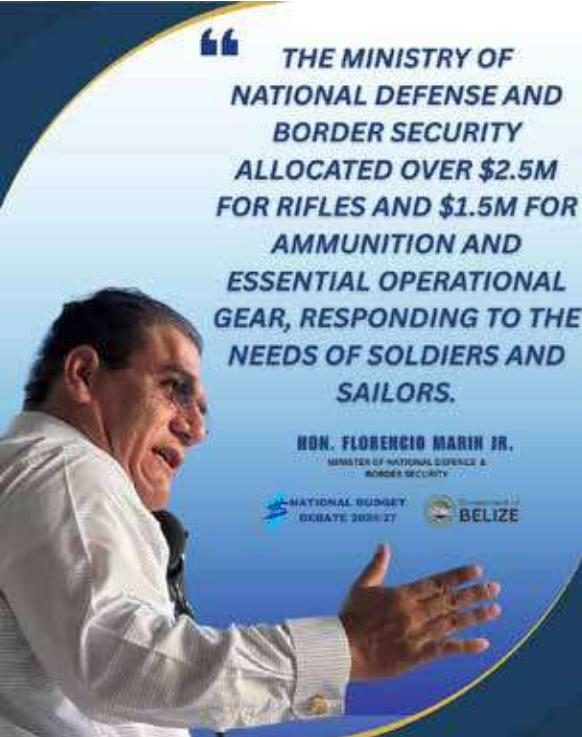
National Budget Debate 2026/27
"TOURISM GENERATES 3.5 BILLION DOLLARS IN REVENUES."

Hon. Anthony Mahler
Minister of Tourism, Youth, Sports, and Diaspora Relations



MORE CONCRETE STREETS FOR PUNTA GORDA

Pampuna St. to Rosewood St. | Queen St. to West St. | Queen St. to Far West St. | Ogaldez St. to Pampuna St. | Cemetery Lane to West St.



THE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE AND BORDER SECURITY ALLOCATED OVER \$2.5M FOR RIFLES AND \$1.5M FOR AMMUNITION AND ESSENTIAL OPERATIONAL GEAR, RESPONDING TO THE NEEDS OF SOLDIERS AND SAILORS.

HON. FLORENCIO MARÍN JR.
MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENSE & BORDER SECURITY



"School gardens stimulate the productive potential of our young citizens..."

Hon. Rodwell Ferguson
2026 Budget Debate



BELIZE ACHIEVES RECORD-LOW UNEMPLOYMENT

In 2025, Belizean households experienced a meaningful easing of price pressures. Inflation fell to 1.1 percent, down sharply from 3.3 percent in 2024 and the near-record high of 8.3 percent in 2022, supported by lower fuel and communication costs and the continued normalization of international supply and freight conditions.

Our labour market performed exceptionally well. Unemployment fell to a historic low averaging 2.0 percent in 2025, down from 2.8 percent the year before, driven by job creation in service-oriented industries, particularly wholesale and retail trade, as well as in the tourism sector. More Belizeans entered the labour force, and wage growth outpaced inflation—strengthening real incomes and boosting purchasing power for families across the country.

Hon. John Briceño
Prime Minister of Belize



"...formal cattle exports to Mexico increased in value from \$12.0 million in 2024 to \$16.3 million in 2025..."

Hon. Rodwell Ferguson
2026 Budget Debate



HON. HENRY CHARLES USHER
Minister of the Public Service and Disaster Risk Management

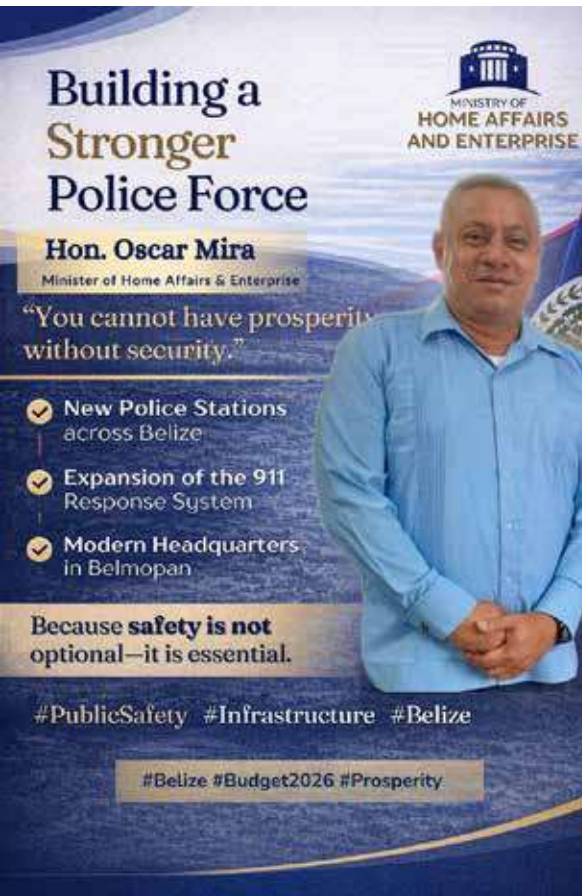
"We are investing in specialized training and certification to strengthen Belize's capacity in disaster risk management and climate resilience."

"Investing in People, Building Resilience."



BUDGET DEBATE 2026/2027
"We are building a new government high school in Caye Caulker, with construction expected to commence shortly, made possible through these targeted capital investments in education infrastructure."

HON. ANDRE PEREZ
Minister of Education



Building a Stronger Police Force

Hon. Oscar Mira
Minister of Home Affairs & Enterprise

"You cannot have prosperity without security."

✓ New Police Stations across Belize
✓ Expansion of the 911 Response System
✓ Modern Headquarters in Belmopan

Because safety is not optional—it is essential.

#PublicSafety #Infrastructure #Belize

#Belize #Budget2026 #Prosperity



THE 2026/2027 BUDGET WILL FURTHER ADVANCE TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION AND INNOVATION TO ENHANCE TEACHING AND LEARNING.

HON. FRANCIS FONSECA
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, FOREIGN TRADE, EDUCATION, CULTURE, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

WORK CONTINUES IN 2026

“Balance the Scales”

Belmopan City Council



Hosting Girl Empowerment

National Women’s Commission



Empowerment Forum & Educational Fair

BDF Participating



Annual Women in Stride 5k Race

Benque Town Council



1st Day of Youth Easter Jobs Program



Sport Tournament

Child Stimulation Activities



Orange Walk TC



University of Belize



At World Water Day



San Juan Community PreSchool



Belmopan CC

‘Segulmos Muy Blen’

BSIF - MAFSNGI - MET - GoB IT & Field Equipment to SIRD

Climate Resilient & Sustainable Agriculture Project

March 30, 2026 - Through the Climate Resilient and Sustainable Agriculture Project (CRESAP), the Belize Social Investment Fund (BSIF) and the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and New Growth Industries (MAFSNGI), as implementing agencies, in collaboration with the Ministry of Economic Transformation (MET), have handed over IT and field equipment valued at over BZ\$45,000.00 to the Sugar Industry Research and Development Institute (SIRDI).

SIRDI, a longstanding pillar of the sugar industry, plays a major role in providing technical guidance, advancing research, and supporting farmers across the sector. The equipment provided will enhance SIRDI's operational efficiency and strengthen data-driven decision-making.

The handover included twelve (12) GPS devices to support accurate registration of field locations and improve tracking across sugarcane farms. Ten (10) tablets were provided to facilitate efficient data collection, mapping, and real-time field input. Additionally, four (4) laptops will strengthen data management, analysis, and reporting capabilities, while one (1) drone will support the quantification and assessment of pest damage across fields, enabling more timely and targeted interventions.

"The sugar industry remains a cornerstone of Belize's economy, and strengthening SIRDI directly contributes to safeguarding its productivity and sustainability," said Mr. Carlos Tun, Executive Director of BSIF. "By enhancing SIRDI's technical capacity, farmers will benefit from improved services, more efficient field support, and stronger, data-informed interventions."

This handover builds on previous support provided under the project. In October 2025, three (3) motorcycles were delivered to SIRDI to enhance the mobility and efficiency of field officers. These motorcycles continue to play a vital role in facilitating field visits and supporting the coordination of biological control agents under the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program.

"It is important to note the challenges the sugar industry faces must be addressed to ensure its long-term viability," shared Mr. Servulo Baeza, Chief Executive Officer in MAFSNGI. "The support being provided today forms part of the project's restructuring, with a total of US\$2.9 million allocated for equipment, staffing, and capacity building. An additional US\$4 million will further support the procurement of biological inputs to manage pests such as froghopper, stem borer, and fusarium wilt."

"Maximizing the use of these resources is essential," stated Dr. Hon. Osmond Martinez, Minister of State in MET. "This initiative reflects the Government of Belize's continued commitment to strengthening key agricultural institutions through strategic investments under CRESAP. Through this support, farmers will receive improved services, timely technical assistance, and the tools needed to build resilience and sustain productivity within Belize's sugar industry."

The Climate Resilient and Sus-

tainable Agriculture Project (CRESAP) is a US\$25 million initiative financed by the World Bank. It aims to improve the productivity and resilience of farmers through a matching grant program and to strengthen the capacity of key public institutions (government agencies and academic organizations) to support a more productive and sustainable agricultural sector. (release)



INVITATION TO BID



INSTITUTION: MINISTRY OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, CLIMATE
CHANGE & SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

Tender: Procurement of Solid Waste Transfer Stations and Regional Sanitary Landfill Services (LOT-Based)

The Government of Belize, acting through the Ministry of Sustainable Development, Climate Change & Solid Waste Management, invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified service providers for the provision of **Loading, Hauling, Transfer, Disposal and Associated Solid Waste Management Services (Transfer Stations), and the Spreading, Compacting, Covering, and Other Heavy Equipment Services (Regional Sanitary Landfill Facility)** under a LOT-based procurement arrangement.

Lot No.	Facility	Type	Contract Period
Lot 1	Belize City Solid Waste Transfer Station	Transfer Station	36 months
Lot 2	Burrell Boom Solid Waste Transfer Station	Transfer Station	36 months
Lot 3	Belmopan Solid Waste Transfer Station	Transfer Station	36 months
Lot 4	San Ignacio / Santa Elena Solid Waste Transfer Station	Transfer Station	36 months
Lot 5	Dangriga Solid Waste Transfer Station	Transfer Station	36 months
Lot 6	Orange Walk Transfer Station	Transfer Station	36 Months
Lot 7	Corozal Transfer Station	Transfer Station	36 Months
Lot 8	Regional Sanitary Landfill – Mile 24, George Price Highway	Landfill	36 MONTHS

GENERAL INFORMATION:

- Bidders may submit bids for one, several, or all lots.** Evaluation and award will be conducted **per lot**. Subject to demonstrated capacity to deliver, the Employer may award multiple Lots to a single Bidder.
- This invitation is open to all eligible and qualified Bidders.
- Qualification requirements are provided in Section II of the Bidding Documents. Prospective Bidders' attention is drawn to the Instructions to Bidders in the Bidding Documents.
- The complete Bidding Document in English may be obtained by interested Bidders by way of email application to the email addresses below:
Procurement Unit – MSDCCSWM, procurement.officer@environment.gov.bz with CC to procurement.asst@environment.gov.bz
- The Bidding Documents will be emailed to the Bidder at the email address specified in the email application.
- Bids must be delivered to the address indicated in the bidding document at or before **10:00 a.m. on April 23rd, 2026**. Electronic bidding **shall not be permitted**. Late bids **will be rejected**.
- All bids shall be accompanied by a **Bid Securing Declaration** as specified in the Instructions to Bidders.

CARICOM Ministerial Meeting Belize Chairs COTED

Min. Habet Leads the Delegation of Belize



March 27, 2026 - Hon. Orlando Habet, Minister of Sustainable Development, Climate Change and Solid Waste Management, chaired the 124th Special Meeting of the Council for Trade and Economic Development (COTED) – Environment and Sustainable Development, held in Georgetown, Guyana, from March 26–27, 2026.

In his role as Chair, Minister Habet guided regional discussions among CARICOM Environment Ministers, focusing on practical action to address climate change, biodiversity, ocean governance, and sustainable development. The meeting emphasized shifting from commitments to implementation across member states.

"We are the bridge between global commitments and local implementation," Minister Habet stated, underscoring the importance of translating international agreements into tangible benefits for communities.

Ministers agreed on the need to accelerate delivery of national and regional climate priorities, including Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), adaptation strategies, and responses to loss and damage. Strengthening coordination across sectors and integrating climate action into national development planning were identified as key steps.

Improving access to climate finance emerged as a central issue. Ministers highlighted ongoing challenges, such as complex application processes, limited technical capacity, and delays in funding disbursement. In engagement with development banks and climate funds, CARICOM called for simplified and more accessible funding processes tailored to Small Island Developing States (SIDS), expanded technical and readiness support, better alignment with national priorities, and faster, more predictable financing. (Release)

Belize - Guyana Sign MoU

Cooperation in Forest Conservation and Climate Resilience

March 27, 2026 - The Ministry of Sustainable Development, Climate Change and Solid Waste Management announces the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Government of Belize and the Government of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana to strengthen cooperation in the conservation, sustainable management, and protection of forests.

This agreement brings together two Caribbean Community mainland states with significant tropical forest resources, both playing a vital role in biodiversity conservation, climate regulation, and building resilience to climate change.

"This Memorandum of Understanding strengthens our partnership with Guyana and our capacity to conserve biodiversity, enhance climate resilience, and advance sustainable development, while creating opportunities in carbon markets and climate finance," said Minister Orlando Habet.

The MoU establishes a framework for collaboration, focusing on:

Forest conservation and sustainable management

Biodiversity protection and ecosystem integrity

Climate change resilience and adaptation

Measurement, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) systems

Exploration of carbon market opportunities

The Government of Belize and the Co-operative Republic of Guyana face common challenges, including deforestation, illegal logging, land use change, wildfires, and the increasing impacts of climate change. Through this partnership, both countries



will address these challenges through coordinated action, knowledge exchange, and capacity building.

Under this Memorandum, the two countries will collaborate through:

--Joint initiatives to strengthen forest management and conservation

--Sharing of technical expertise, data, and best practices

--Strengthening monitoring, surveillance, and MRV systems

--Promoting sustainable livelihoods, including for Indigenous peoples and local communities

--Enhancing access to climate finance and international support

--Advancing research, innovation, and institutional capacity

The cooperation also emphasises inclusive and sustainable development, ensuring that efforts support communities while respecting traditional knowledge and cultural practices. The implementation of the MoU will be supported through designated national focal points and may include the establishment of a Technical Working Group.

The Ministry of Sustainable Development, Climate Change and Solid Waste Management reaffirms its commitment to strengthening climate resilience, conserving Belize's natural resources, and advancing strategic partnerships that support sustainable development and environmental integrity. (release)



INVITATION FOR BIDS

Request for Bids (RFB)

Belize

Water and Sanitation Program for Rural Areas

BL-L1045 (5753/OC-BL)

BL-L1045-P00023-Rehabilitation of water systems at the village level (supply and installation of water meters, power supply, pump house infrastructure, water tanks, wells, other) Lot 1 and Lot 2

1. This RFB follows the General Procurement Notice for this Project that appeared in *Development Business*, issue no. IDB/BL-L1045-2025 of 4th June 2025

2. Government of Belize has received a loan from the Inter-American Development Bank toward the cost of *Water and Sanitation Program for Rural Areas*, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan to payments under the Contract for *Rehabilitation of water systems at the village level (supply and installation of water meters, power supply, pump house infrastructure, water tanks, wells, other) Lot 1 and Lot 2*

3. The *Belize Social Investment Fund* now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for *Rehabilitation of water systems at the village level (supply and installation of water meters, power supply, pump house infrastructure, water tanks, wells, other) Lot 1 and Lot 2*

Scope of Works Includes:

- Rehabilitation of water tanks
- Rehabilitation of pump houses
- Upgrade of electrical systems
- Rehabilitation of existing fences
- Construction of new fences
- Rehabilitation of pumps and well heads
- Construction of equipment housing (Lot 2).

4. The delivery / construction period is *Lot 1-includes 7 villages with a duration of 9 months and Lot 2- includes 9 villages with a duration of 12 months.*

5. The RFB will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (ICB) procedures specified in the Inter-American Development Bank's *Policies for the Procurement of Goods and Works financed by the Inter-American Development Bank GN-2349-15* and is open to all bidders from Eligible Source Countries as defined in the bidding document. Bidders may bid for one or both lots. To qualify for the award of both lots, Bidders should demonstrate fulfillment of the sum for each criteria indicated.

5. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from Procurement officer, kyla.cho@sifbelize.org.

6. Qualifications requirements include:

- a. Experience as contractor in the construction of at least the number of works of a nature and complexity equivalent to the Works over the period of four (4) years and the work cited should be at least 70 -80 percent complete.
- b. The Bidder shall have an average annual construction turnover over the last three (3) years of at least two (2) times the estimated value of the Works.
- c. Bidder shall meet the financial ratios
- d. Bidders shall meet the minimum liquid assets and /or credit facilities for Lot 1- BZD\$ 65,000 and Lot 2-BZD \$150,000

7. A complete set of the bidding document in English may be obtained by interested bidders on the submission of a written Application to the address. The bidding document will be sent by email.

8. Bids must be delivered to the address below at or before **April 24, 2026 at 10:00 a.m local Belize time**. Electronic bidding *"shall not"* be permitted. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened physically in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend in person or on-line.

9. All bids *"shall"* be accompanied by a *"Bid Security"* of: **Lot 1- BZ \$6,500 and Lot 2- BZ \$10,500 or for both Lot 1 and Lot 2: BZ \$16,500**

10. Bidding Documents may be obtained by eligible bidders from the first address below for a non-refundable fee of BZD \$50.00. Requests may be made by written application including email. Written applications must be clearly marked: **"Rehabilitation of water systems at the village level (supply and installation of water meters, power supply, pump house infrastructure, water tanks, wells, other) Lot 1 and Lot 2"**, along with the name, address and contact information of the bidder for which Bidding Documents are being requested. The method of payment will be by cash deposited to, or Bank transfer to the Social Investment Fund's bank account only. A request for the Social Investment Fund's banking details can be made at the address below. The Social Investment Fund is not accepting cash payment currently.

11. The address(es) referred to above is(are):

Address for requesting bidding documents and information
Belize Social Investment Fund
Building C, 4253 Hummingbird Highway Belmopan, Belize
kyla.cho@sifbelize.org
Cc: carlos.tun@sifbelize.org



March 30, 2026 - Governor-General H.E. Dame Froyla Tzalam received Letters of Credence from two newly appointed ambassadors to Belize.

H.E. Amino C. Y. Chi, Ambassador of the Republic of China (Taiwan), and H.E. Ana Luisa Vallejo Barba, Ambassador of the United Mexican States, presented their credentials at the Belize House in Belmopan.

The ambassadors each expressed their hopes of forging stronger bonds with Belize during their tenure. The Governor-General extended a warm welcome to the diplomats and conveyed well-wishes on behalf of the people of Belize. (release)

Presentation of Credentials Belize Welcomes Ambassadors from Taiwan & Mexico



\$6.62 Million
INVESTED IN TRAINING OF
NURSES FROM 2020 - 2025

Hon. Kevin Bernard
Minister of Health & Wellness
Budget Debate 2026



PUC – ITC Regulatory Innovation Project Workshop on Regulatory Innovation Mechanisms

On March 25th, 2026, the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) commenced the Workshop on Regulatory Innovation Mechanisms as part of a strategic commitment to a fair and people-centred digital future.

The EU-LAC Digital Alliance and the Global Gateway model, a collaboration between the EU and Latin America and the Caribbean intended to promote sustainable investments in digital infrastructure, serve as the framework for this program.

In an era of rapid technological change, traditional regulatory models often struggle to keep pace. The ITU's Regulatory Innovation Project aims to bridge this gap by supporting beneficiary countries in adopting agile, "next generation" regulatory approaches.

The PUC is at the heart of this effort, promoting open collaboration between the public and private sectors. The project ensures that digital expansion in Belize does not just provide access but fosters a resilient and inclusive economy. The event is designed for national authorities, telecommunications operators, service providers, and regulators from digital-adjacent sectors. Through this project, Belize continues to position itself as a leader in regulatory modernization, ensuring that its digital ecosystem is both innovative and aligned with global best practices. (post)

The PUC is under the Ministry of E-Governance. (release)

VOICE OF THE COMMON MAN
BOOSTING SOCIAL PROTECTION FROM 3-5MILLION

By Hilly Bennett

Improved social security systems and safety nets are key elements for an integrated approach to eradicating poverty and improving equity. However, it is of utmost importance to have true leadership that guides the macro policy direction. During the Budget Debate on the Appropriation Bill 2026/2027, the leadership quality was on full display as the Minister of Human Development, Family Support and Gender Affairs Thea Garcia-Ramirez rose making her presentation in the House of Representatives.

In the aftermath of the global recession of 2008 and the collapse of economies, including small economies such as Belize, countries introduced "social pension" plans around the world that were dedicated to the elderly, sick, or the down and out. At the time the emerging-market citizens demanded better government and better care for the poor. However, the social protection programs and faulty welfare bureaucracies became sink-holes for public revenues and failed to help those in need. Sounds familiar? It is as Hon. Thea Garcia-Ramirez suggested pointing to the United Democratic Party (UDP) roll for the BOOST (Building On Our Social Protection) that was infested with Mickey and Minnie Mouse.

In early 2011, the UDP initiated BOOST in Belize. It was officially launched in February 2011 which was developed as a conditional cash transfer (CCT) program aimed at reducing poverty by providing monthly financial assistance to vulnerable households, specifically targeting school-aged children, pregnant women, the elderly, and persons with disabilities. The program would provide immediate relief to poor households, particularly in Belize City's Southside, rural areas, and southern districts. BOOST was influenced by successful CCT models in other countries, such as Brazil and Mexico, as well as the PATH program in Jamaica. The programme was developed with the support of the World Bank and poverty experts from the London School of Economics. The objective was to create a "social contract" between the government and poor families, where families received cash aid in exchange for adhering to specific conditions, such as ensuring at least 85% school attendance for children and regular health check-ups. Under the UDP, it was implemented by the Ministry of Human Development, Social Transformation and Poverty Alleviation. Although, BOOST was designed to go beyond mere handouts by fostering partnership for long-term improvement in healthcare and education for marginalized communities it failed to reduce the rate of poverty and unemployment. Unfortunately, the Dean Barrow Government leveraged the supposedly noble initiative to consolidate its political power. A regional advisor on social policy from Panama said that the failure of the program was due to "errors of exclusion and errors of inclusion". This meant that persons who qualified did not get into the program and Mickey and Minnie Mouse

got on.

Minister Garcia-Ramirez in her rising in Parliament stated that "Some people may question investment in social protection but this Government does not, and, yes, we have expanded support to the elderly and persons with disabilities because for too long these persons were overlooked. This Government is correcting that. Through the BOOST program, we now support over 4,000 individuals across 1,600 households. We have added 517 new beneficiaries and of these beneficiaries, 35% of 1,417 are pre or primary school students. 25% or 938 are secondary school students. 5% or 189 are persons with disabilities and 27% or 1,061 are actually elderly persons. 8% or 347 are children under the age of 4." The Minister added "Madam Speaker, I am happy to report we do not have Mickey Mouse or Minnie Mouse in our list for assistance. Our Ministry's social assistance program complements the PUP government's broader protection strategies. Like expanded coverage of the NHI and greater investment in education and housing, especially for single mothers. This underscores the government's commitment to protecting the most vulnerable and strengthening the social fabric of our nation. It is this PUP government that saw the need to protect the rights of people with disabilities." Thea Garcia-Ramirez indicated that the Budget expanded Belize's national social protection from 3 million to 5 million in BOOST coverage for the new financial year. The Ministry will improve coordination and continue to assist more vulnerable households.

According to the Minister of Human Development, "We are excited that this Government was able to expand BOOST from 3 to 5 million and that will allow us to take on very many more clients...." The success of BOOST is indicative of a leadership that delivers!

BELIZEPROPERTYAUCTIONS.COM
PUBLIC AUCTION SALES: PROPERTIES

Yo Creek Village, San Jose Palmar, Orange Walk District

BY ORDER of the Mortgagees Messrs. The Belize Bank Limited, Licensed Auctioneers Kevin A. Castillo and Christiana R. Castillo are selling ONLINE via belizepropertyauctions.com the following properties. Sales currently running and will expire fortnightly on the dates and times listed on the website until these properties are sold.

1. Parcel No. 164 Yo Creek Village, Orange Walk District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Yo Creek Village	4	164
The freehold property of Mr. Cesar Jovel and Ms. Lilia Luna.		

2. Parcel No. 49 corner of Balam and Donicio Street, San Jose Palmar, Orange Walk District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
San Jose Palmar	4	49
The freehold property of Ms. Joel Flores.		

"FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & PHOTOGRAPHS PLEASE VISIT WEBSITE"

TERMS: STRICTLY CASH
KEVIN A. CASTILLO
TELEPHONE 223-4488
Website: belizepropertyauctions.com
E-mail: kevinacas@yahoo.com
Facebook: Belize Auction

ROAD SAFETY
IS A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY



#Drive Safely

- **RESPECT THE SPEED LIMIT**
- **ALWAYS WEAR YOUR SEAT BELT**
- **NEVER DRINK AND DRIVE**
- **WEAR A MOTORCYCLE HELMET**
- **AVOID DISTRACTIONS; STAY FOCUSED**

Ministry of National Defence and Border Security

BOLSTERING THE BDF WITH MODERN IT EQUIPMENT

In a strategic move to modernize the nation’s primary defence arm, the Ministry of National Defence officially handed over an assortment of high-end IT equipment to the Belize Defence Force (BDF) today.

The ceremony marks a significant milestone in the Ministry’s ongoing commitment to digitizing military operations and ensuring that those on the front lines have the technological edge required for 21st-century security challenges.

Modernizing for Mission Success

The newly acquired equipment, which includes advanced computing systems, networking hardware, and specialized digital tools, is designed to streamline communication and data management across the force. By integrating updated technology, the BDF aims to:

Enhance Operational Efficiency: Faster data processing allows for real-time decision-making during field operations and border patrols.

Strengthen Internal Communications: Secure, modern networking ensures seamless coordination between various BDF detachments and headquarters.

Belize Hosts Launch - CarIPI Phase II and Advances Intellectual Property Development



March 25, 2026 - The Belize Intellectual Property Office (BELIPO), in partnership with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade and BELTRAIDE, successfully hosted the official launch of the second phase of the CARIFORUM Intellectual Property Rights and Innovation Project (CarIPI II), in collaboration with regional and international partners.

The launch, held on March 17, 2026, in Belize City, featured remarks by Hon. Anthony Sylvestre, Attorney General, and H.E. Amalia Mai, CEO in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, who emphasized Belize’s commitment to strengthening intellectual property (IP) as a driver of innovation and economic growth.

The CARIFORUM Intellectual Property Rights and Innovation (CarIPI) project is a European Union-funded regional cooperation initiative implemented by the European Union Intellectual Property Office. The current phase (2025–2029) represents the second stage of the project. It supports CARIFORUM countries in strengthening their intellectual property systems, with a focus on legislative modernization, institutional capacity building, digitalization, awareness-raising, and the protection of geographical indications. It builds on the foundations established during the first phase (2019–2024) and forms part of the European Commission’s broader cooperation efforts to support the development of robust IP systems beyond the European Union. CarIPI II builds on key achievements from the first phase, including Belize’s accession to the Madrid Protocol and the modernization of BELIPO through digital transformation and capacity building.

The event also highlighted Belize’s focus on developing geographical indications (GIs) for products such as cacao and other origin-linked goods, supported by ongoing efforts to introduce dedicated GI legislation.

Over three days, participants engaged in high-level discussions on IP systems, treaty participation, and sustainable development, alongside the launch of the CarIPI Mentorship Programme for origin-linked products. A follow-up field mission in Toledo further engaged local producers, advancing work on GI readiness, particularly for cacao.

BELIPO reaffirmed its commitment to strengthening Belize’s IP system and fostering innovation through continued regional and international collaboration. (release)

Improve Training and Readiness: Updated systems provide the necessary infrastructure for digital simulations and advanced administrative management.

A Commitment to Progress

During the handover, Ministry officials emphasized that "mission success"

in the modern era is inextricably linked to technological proficiency. This donation is not merely a hardware upgrade but a long-term investment in the BDF’s capability to respond to evolving threats, from illicit border activity to disaster relief efforts.

The Ministry of National Defence and Border Security remains dedicated to ensuring that the men and women of the Force are not only well-trained but equipped with the best tools to protect Belize’s sovereignty. (release)



CENTRAL BANK
of BELIZE



CAREER OPPORTUNITY

ASSISTANT CHIEF INTERNAL AUDITOR

The Central Bank invites qualified individuals to join its Internal Audit Department.

The Internal Audit Department is an independent, objective assurance and consulting function that evaluates and improves the Central Bank’s internal controls, risk management, and governance processes. The Assistant Chief Internal Auditor conducts specialized audits and leads the assigned team in assessing internal controls, effectively communicating findings and recommendations, and monitoring responses and ameliorative actions.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Assist the Chief Internal Auditor in the strategic planning and management of the Internal Audit Department.
- Provide guidance and performance management to the audit team, ensuring quality control assurance on audit engagement planning, performance, and reporting.
- Communicate audit findings and recommendations to management.
- Oversee the Internal Audit Department’s continuous monitoring activities to give assurance on the integrity of critical Central Bank processes and systems.
- Monitor and validate the implementation of audit recommendations and management action plans.
- Coordinate and provide training and development opportunities to ensure the audit team meets the Internal Audit Continued Professional Development (CPD) standard.
- Provide expert consultation on the development and installation of systems and procedures and maintenance of a strong and effective control environment.
- Plan, manage, and perform assigned specialized audits.
- Lead investigations into suspected fraudulent activities and report findings to the Chief Internal Auditor.
- Perform other duties necessary to fulfill the requirements of the audit function as assigned.

The applicants should possess the following:

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

- A recognized professional certification in accounting (CPA/ ACCA) and/or internal auditing (CIA, CISA), with
 - A master’s degree in accounting, banking, or finance from a recognized university, with at least three (3) years of relevant experience; **or**
 - A bachelor’s degree in accounting, banking, or finance with at least six (6) years of relevant experience.

TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE

- Knowledge of the Central Bank of Belize Act, the Domestic Banks and Financial Institutions Act, internal control processes, auditing, and accounting principles; investigative and reporting skills; ability to apply relevant methodologies and tools effectively to audit engagements; computer literate and proficient in Microsoft Office Suite.

COMPETENCIES

- Communication, Analytical Ability, Job knowledge, Organisational Ability, Problem Solving/Judgement, Quality of Output, Decision Making, Delegation and Empowerment, Strategic Management, Coaching and Development

Submit the following documents by: **Wednesday, 15 April 2026**

- CBB Employment Application Form (Available online)
- Curriculum Vitae
- Two (2) current references (Both must be professional references)
- Copies of university transcripts, degrees, and any other personal certificates

Applications should be addressed to:

Manager, Human Resources Department
Central Bank of Belize
P.O. Box 852 or Gabourel Lane
Belize City, BELIZE

Ref: Assistant Chief Internal Auditor- Internal Audit Department

Email: hr@centralbank.org.bz or online at www.centralbank.org.bz
(All applications will be held in strict confidence.)

Empowering the Next Generation BELTRAIDE with CJC

It was an incredible day of learning and inspiration as SBDCBelize joined the bright minds of Corozal Junior College (CJC) at the Excalibur Adventure Park off the Coastal Highway to deliver an entrepreneurial and business development presentation.

With over 250+ first- and second-year business students in attendance, the energy was electric. Our team dove deep into the realities of the Belizean business landscape, sharing insights on real-world practices and the essential support services available to help young entrepreneurs turn their visions into viable ventures.

We are proud to support CJC in fostering a culture of entrepreneurship. Seeing so much potential in one room reminds us that the future of Belize's economy is in very capable hands!(Post)

This is one of the many economical/financial programs that the Office of the Prime Minister's BELTRAIDE carries out in a calendar year. The drive to empower MSME's begins with guiding minds with the concepts that may lead to becoming more successful entrepreneurs. In this case, these young people are planting seeds to be the trees of the next generation as they themselves train others to build Belize. This is what the PM means with prosperity.



Specific Procurement Notice



BELIZE

Social Investment Fund

Request for Bids

Small Works

(One-Envelope Bidding Process)

Country: Belize

Name of Project: Climate Resilient and Sustainable Agriculture Project

Contract Title: Export Corral for BLPA

Loan No./Credit No./ Grant No.: P172592

RFB Reference No.: BZ-SIF-519249-CW-RFB

1. The Government of Belize has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Climate Resilient Sustainable Agriculture Project and intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract for Construction of Export Corral for BLPA.
2. The Belize Social Investment Fund now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for the construction of Export Corral for BLPA.
3. Bidding will be conducted through a national competitive procurement using a Request for Bids (RFB) as specified in the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers" November 2020 ("Procurement Regulations") and is open to all Bidders as defined in the Procurement Regulations.
4. Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from Belize Social Investment Fund, Ms. Jahnnina Reyes, Procurement Officer procurement.cresap@sifbelize.org and inspect the bidding document during office hours 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the address given below.
5. The bidding document in English may be requested by interested eligible Bidders upon the submission of a written application to the address below.
6. Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before April 24th, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. local time. Electronic Bidding will not be permitted. Late Bids will be rejected. Bids will be publicly opened in the presence of the Bidders' designated representatives and anyone who chooses to attend at the address below on April 24th, 2026 at 10:30 a.m.
7. All Bids must be accompanied by a "Bid Security" of BZD\$152,000.00
8. "Attention is drawn to the Procurement Regulations requiring the Borrower to disclose information on the successful bidder's beneficial ownership, as part of the Contract Award Notice, using the Beneficial Ownership Disclosure Form as included in the bidding document."
9. The address referred to above is:

Belize Social Investment Fund
Attn: Ms. Jahnnina Reyes, Procurement Officer
P.O. Box 459, 4253 Hummingbird Highway, Building C, Belmopan City, Belize
Telephone: +501-822-0239
Email: procurement.cresap@sifbelize.org
Cc : jahnnina.reyes@sifbelize.org

UNHCR - Government of Japan Strengthened Asylum Systems

'implementing innovative digital solutions, improving data management and collection, strengthening legal framework and reinforcing protection safeguards'



16 March 2026 - The Ministry of Immigration, Refugees Department, UNHCR - the UN Refugee Agency - and the Government of Japan have launched a new initiative to strengthen Belize's asylum system by implementing innovative digital solutions, improving data management and collection, strengthening legal framework and reinforcing protection safeguards in line with international standards. This project is generously funded by the Government of Japan, which is contributing USD 667,000 to support the initiative and ensure its successful implementation.

The key component of the project is the development and rollout of a secure digital system to manage asylum cases. The system will modernize registration and case processing, improve the accuracy and reliability of data, and strengthen preparedness for increased asylum needs, while ensuring confidentiality and data protection.

"With the support of the Government of Japan, UNHCR is supporting the Government of Belize strengthen its asylum system through innovative, sustainable approaches, firmly rooted in protection principles," said Jose Egas, UNHCR's Multi-Country Office Panama Representative "By investing in legal frameworks, data-driven approaches, and digital solutions, this initiative helps ensure that people in need of international protection receive timely, fair, and safe access to asylum."

"By supporting the Government of Belize in strengthening national systems and fair, efficient asylum procedures, the Government of Japan and UNHCR are ensuring that people in need of international protection can access their rights safely and with dignity, allowing refugees and asylum-seekers to contribute their skills, labor, entrepreneurship, and cultural diversity, benefiting host communities across Belize," said H.E. Ryosuke Yamakura, Ambassador, Embassy of Japan.

"Belize continues to strengthen a national asylum system that operates with fairness, efficiency, and respect for human dignity," said Hon. Kareem Musa, Minister of Immigration, Governance and Labour.

"This partnership with the Government of Japan and UNHCR supports the modernization of our institutional capacity through secure digital case management, stronger data systems, and continued development of our legal framework. These improvements enhance the ability of the Refugees Department to process applications responsibly while protecting confidential information and maintaining clear procedures. Belize values its longstanding partnership with UNHCR, which has

supported the country since the 1980s and continues to provide valuable technical guidance as we strengthen our national protection systems. Through collaboration with international partners, Belize continues to build institutions that uphold international standards and serve both people seeking protection and the communities that welcome them."



CENTRAL BANK
of BELIZE

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

SUPERVISOR, ACCOUNTS

The Central Bank invites qualified individuals to join its Accounts and Budget Department.

The Supervisor, Accounts, is responsible for assisting with the supervision and coordination of the activities of the Accounts Unit to ensure accurate, efficient, and timely processing of payments and accounting transactions, while maintaining compliance with the Bank's policies, procedures and accounting standards.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Oversee the daily processing of cash, local and foreign payments to ensure accuracy, completeness and timeliness.
- Supervise and evaluate performance of direct reports.
- Verify invoice payments to ensure proper approval, AML/CFT compliance, and adherence to establish procedures.
- Review and post accounting transactions in the Bank's accounting and Automated Payment and Securities Settlement System in accordance with accounting principles and internal policies.
- Prepare monthly journals entries to record estimated expenses and accrued income.
- Maintain and verify registers for payments and accounting transactions and ensure proper filing of posting vouchers in accordance with Bank's records management policies and procedure.
- Verify reconciliations, progress report, audit confirmation, and abandoned property transactions to support accuracy and integrity of accounts records.
- Assist with updating the accounting sections of the Department's Procedure Manual and Business Continuity Plan to reflect policy, procedural, and IFRS-related changes.
- Perform vault custodian responsibilities, including the issue and receipts of local and foreign currency and the recording of inventory movements.
- Perform Central Bank of Belize Pension Fund and Staff Club custodian responsibilities.
- Perform duties of a "B" signatory as authorized under the Bank's list of Authorized Signatories.
- Perform other duties that may be assigned from time to time.

The applicants should possess the following:

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

- A bachelor's degree in accounting, finance, business management or a related field from a recognized University. At least five (5) years' working experience in accounting, finance, auditing, business management, project management or other related fields in the business environment.

TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE

- Knowledge of accounting principles; Knowledge of Business and Management Principles; Excellent negotiations and organizational skills; Knowledge of strategic management approach; and Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite.

COMPETENCIES

- Communication, Analytical Ability, Job knowledge, Organizational Ability, Problem Solving/Judgement, Quality of Output, Interpersonal Relations, Digital Ability, and Initiative

Submit the following documents by **Wednesday, 8 April 2026:**

- CBB Employment Application Form (Available online)
- Curriculum Vitae
- Two (2) current references (Both must be professional references)
- Copies of university transcripts, degrees, and any other personal certificates

Applications should be addressed to:

Manager, Human Resources Department
Central Bank of Belize
P.O. Box 852 or Gabourel Lane
Belize City, BELIZE

Ref: Supervisor- Accounts and Budget Department

Email: hr@centralbank.org.bz or online at www.centralbank.org.bz
(All applications will be held in strict confidence.)

UNDP – UNICEF – Rural Transformation

A Milestone in Santa Elena and Naj Luum Ca!
Bringing Technology & Water



March 26 - Today marks a milestone for rural transformation and community development as MRT, alongside our partners United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and UNICEF, officially inaugurated new Community Digital Hubs and Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (W.A.S.H.) projects.

Through our collaboration with UNDP, these Digital Hubs provide a vital space for students and residents to master technology and excel in their studies, while our partnership with UNICEF ensures reliable access to potable water.

Taking this momentum to Naj Luum Ca, the Ministry also handed over additional water meters and accessories to the San Jose/Naj Luum Ca Water Board to support the expansion of their shared water system. We are proud to invest in the tools and infrastructure that empower our

children and strengthen the foundation of rural Belize. (post)

The Ministry of Rural Transformation, together with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and UNICEF, officially inaugurated new Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (W.A.S.H.) projects and community digital hubs in the villages of Santa Elena and Na Luum Ca in the Toledo District.

This collaborative initiative provides critical solar-powered water infrastructure, including elevated water tanks that ensure reliable water pressure, as well as digital hubs at the schools that feature access to computers and high-speed internet. This marks a transformative step toward long-term resilience, ensuring that location is no longer an obstacle to health, education, or opportunity for people in rural communities. (GoB Post)



BLUE BOND AND FINANCE PERMANENCE UNIT

OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER



VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT: PROCUREMENT OFFICER (TRAINEE)

Duty Station: Belize City

The Blue Bond and Finance Permanence Unit (BBFP), established within the Office of the Prime Minister, leads the coordination and implementation of Belize’s Blue Bond commitments. The Unit ensures that the Government of Belize fulfils its obligations under the Blue Loan Agreement (BLA) and Conservation Funding Agreement (CFA), in partnership with the Belize Blue Investment Company (BIC) and The Nature Conservancy (TNC). Additionally, the BBFP is also charged with pursuing an innovative new financing model: Project for Finance Permanence (PfP) along with the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) to further assist Belize in meeting and sustaining their Nationally Determine Contributions (NDCs) and Conservation goals.

Position Overview

We are seeking a motivated and detail-oriented **Procurement Officer (Trainee)** to support and progressively lead procurement activities across BBFP programs. This is an entry-level professional role designed to build strong procurement expertise through training, mentoring, and hands-on experience.

Key Responsibilities

- Support and manage procurement planning and scheduling
- Prepare procurement documents (RFQs, RFPs, TORs, contracts)
- Coordinate and support evaluation and selection processes
- Monitor contracts, deliverables, and supplier performance
- Maintain procurement records and support audit compliance
- Assist with logistics, reporting, and administrative processes
- Participate in training and capacity-building programs

Qualifications & Experience

- Bachelor’s degree in Business, Finance, Accounting, Public Administration, or related field
- Minimum 2 years’ experience in Administration, finance, procurement, or project support
- Strong skills in:
 - Microsoft Office & document management
 - Coordination, organization, and multitasking
 - Clear report writing and communication

Interested applicants may request a copy of the Full Terms of Reference by **emailing:** projectmanager.bbfpunit@opm.gov.bz with the subject line: “*Procurement Officer (Trainee) TOR.*” The Full TOR is also available on the **Blue Bond and Finance Permanence Unit’s Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn pages.** Applications must be submitted no later than **Friday, April 10, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.**

All applications will be reviewed by a Selection Committee. Only shortlisted candidates will be invited for an interview. The Committee will conduct due diligence to verify the information provided in the application and during the interview process.

LIQUOR LICENSE NOTICES

Notice is hereby given that **Eileen Elizabeth Kilgallon** is applying for a **Restaurant Liquor License** to be operated at “**2020 Consejo Cafe**” located in Consejo Village, Corozal District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Maria E. Loza** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at “**El Loza Store**” located in Patchakan Village, Corozal District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Tammy L. Holton/Stephanie Verde/Julian Martinez** are applying for a **Publican Special Liquor License** to be operated at “**Izadora Restaurant & Bar**” located in Sarteneja Village, Corozal District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Teresita Tzul** is applying for a **Beer Liquor License** to be operated at “**Jimeli’s Mini Shop**” located in Paraiso Village, Corozal District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Jovany Flores** is applying for a **Restaurant Liquor License** to be operated at “**El Pescador Restaurant & Bar**” located in Copper Bank Village, Corozal District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Carlos M. Arana** is applying for a **Publican Special Liquor License** to be operated at “**New Milleneum Restaurant & Bar**” located in Consejo Village, Corozal District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Lucerito G. Osorio** is applying for a **Beer Liquor License** to be operated at “**Lucy’s Beer**” located in San Victor Village, Corozal District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Justo P. Chavez** is applying for a **Publican Special Liquor License** to be operated at “**Cevicheria Y Marisqueria El Original**” located in Chan Chen Village, Corozal District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Aaron I. Navarro** is applying for a **Publican Special Liquor License** to be operated at “**Hok’Ol K’In Guest House**” located on 4th Avenue, Corozal Town, Corozal District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Leonilo A. Patt** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at “**Champion Grocery Shop**” located in Chunox Village, Corozal District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Carlos Coyock** is applying for a **Publican Special Liquor License** to be operated at “**Genuine’s Sport Bar**” located at # 9 Palmar Boundary Rd., Orange Walk Town, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Olivia R. Perez** is applying for a **Publican Special Liquor License** to be operated at “**A & M Mini Shop**” located in San Jose Village, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Emerson A. Garrido** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at “**Soul Shop**” located in Guinea Grass Village, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Emerson A. Garrido** is applying for a **Restaurant Liquor License** to be operated at “**Soul Restaurant**” located in Guinea Grass Village, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Kayla T. Cummings** is applying for a **Beer Liquor License** to be operated at “**Gonzalez Mini Shop**” located at # 105 Cabbage Street, Orange Walk Town, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Coury R. Malcolm** is applying for a **Beer Liquor License** to be operated at “**Rootsman Corner & Snack Shop**” located at # 19 Casuarina Street, Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Genie Garcia** is applying for a **Restaurant Liquor License** to be operated at “**Angel’s Restaurant & Buffet**” located at # 4 Albert Street, Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
(INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT)

ASSISTANT NATIONAL PLANNING OFFICER – MINISTRY OF
NATURAL RESOURCES, PETROLEUM AND MINING

Institution: Ministry of Finance
Country: Belize
Project: Belize Blue Cities and Beyond Project
Process ID: BZ-MFEDI - CEU-522972-CS-INDV
Duration: Twenty-four (24) Months
Duty Station: Ministry of Natural Resources, Petroleum and Mining, Belmopan, Belize (In Office)
Deadline: April 20, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. (Local Belize Time) (Extension)

The Government of Belize has received loan financing from the World Bank for the execution of the “Belize Blue Cities and Beyond Project”, being implemented by the Ministry of Finance.

The Ministry of Finance, through its Central Executing Unit, intends to allocate a portion of the project’s proceeds to engage the contractual services of an “Assistant National Planning Officer” for the Ministry of Natural Resources, Petroleum and Mining.

The Ministry of Finance invites individuals to access the full version of this Request for Expression of Interest and Terms of Reference (TOR) at <https://procurement.gov.bz/mof-assistant-national-planning-officer-individual-consultant-bz-mfedi-ceu-522972-cs-indv-mof-2026/> or by scanning the QR code below, and to submit application packages in accordance with the instructions provided in the full version.



ATTN:
Procurement Specialist
Ministry of Finance
Sir Edney Cain Building, 2nd Floor, Belmopan
Tel: 501-822-4106
procurement@ceu.mof.gov.bz

Ref: Individual Consultancy – “Assistant National Planning Officer” – Blue Cities - [Applicant’s Name].



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
(INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT)

NATIONAL PLANNING OFFICER - MINISTRY OF NATURAL
RESOURCES, PETROLEUM AND MINING

Institution: Ministry of Finance
Country: Belize
Project: Belize Blue Cities and Beyond Project
Process ID: BZ-MFEDI - CEU-522972-CS-INDV
Duration: Two (2) years
Duty Station: Ministry of Natural Resources, Petroleum and Mining, Belmopan (In Office)
Deadline: April 20, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. (Local Belize Time) (Extension)

The Government of Belize has received loan financing from the World Bank for the execution of the “Belize Blue Cities and Beyond Project”, being implemented by the Ministry of Finance.”

The Ministry of Finance, through its Central Executing Unit, intends to allocate a portion of the project’s proceeds to engage the contractual services of a “National Planning Officer” for the Ministry of Natural Resources, Petroleum and Mining.

The Ministry of Finance invites individuals to access the full version of this Request for Expression of Interest and Terms of Reference (TOR) at <https://procurement.gov.bz/mof-national-planning-officer-individual-consultant-bz-ceu-460498-cs-indv-mof-2026/> or by scanning the QR code below, and to submit application packages in accordance with the instructions provided in the full version.



ATTN
Procurement Specialist
Central Executing Unit
Ministry of Finance
Sir Edney Cain Building, 2nd Floor, Belmopan
Tel: 501-822-4106
procurement@ceu.mof.gov.bz

Ref: Individual Consultancy – “National Planning Officer” – Blue Cities [Applicant’s Name]

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